227A

XERO

SOVIET JAN 30 NX

NIGHT LD

BY HENRY SHAPIRO

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

MOSCOW (UPI) -- THE SOVIET PEOPLE ARE BEING TOLD OFFICIALLY FOR THE FIRST TIME THAT COMMUNIST CHINA IS OBSTRUCTING THE DELIVERY OF SOVIET MILITARY AID TO NORTH VIET NAM.

A LONG MEMORANDUM FROM THE RULING CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE CACOMMUNIST PARTY REVIEWING THE SINO-SOVIET DISPUTE IS BEING CIRCULATED AND READ TO THE 12 MILLION RANK AND FILE MEMBERS OF THE PARTY, INFORMED SOURCES SAID.

THE DOCUMENT ACCUSES THE CHINESE OF HAVING REJECTED ALL APPEALS FROM THE SOVIET AND OTHER COMMUNIST PARTIES TO UNITE IN FACT OF THE AMERICAN "AGGRESSION" IN VIET NAM AND OF REFUSING TO PARTICIPATE IN A PLANNED WORLD-WIDE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT TO AID AN EMBATTLED COMMUNIST ALLY.

PEKING IS FURTHER CHARGED WITH HARRASSING AND DELAYING THE PASSAGE OF SOVIET ARMS ACROSS CHINA TOWARD NORTH VIET NAM.

THERE HAVE BEEN HINTS OF SUCH CHINESE OBSTRUCTION SINCE THE U.S. RAIDS ON NORTH VIET NAM WERE LAUNCHED A YEAR AGO, BUT NO OFFICIAL SOVIET STATEMENT TO THAT EFFECT.

THE CHINESE HAVE DENIED REPORTS OF SABOTAGING AND ACCUSED THE RUSSIANS OF SENDING ONLY "MISERLY" AID IN THE FORM OF OBSOLETE WEAPONS.

EVEN WHILE SOVIET PARTY SECRETARY ALEXANDER SHELEPIN EARLIER THIS MONTH AT HANOI WAS PLEDGING STEPPED UP MILITARY AID TO NORTH VIET NAM, A CHINESE STATEMENT ACCUSED MOSCOW OF "WORKING HAND IN GLOVE WITH U.S. IMPERIALISM AND PEDDLING THE JOHNSON ADMINISTRATION'S PEACE TALKS HOAX."

HOWEVER, A SECRET LETTER FROM THE CHINESE TO THE SOVIET CENTRAL COMMITTEE WHICH BECAME AVAILABLE IN WESTERN EUROPE AFEW WEEKS AGO SAID:

"YOU WANTED TO SEND VIA CHINA A REGULAR ARMY FORMATION OF 4,000 MEN TO BE STATIONED IN VIET NAM. HOU WANTED TO OCCUPY AND USE ONE OR TWO AIRFIELD IN SOUTHWESTERN CHINA AND STATION THERE AN ARMED FORCE OF 500 MEN."

"YOU ALSO WANTED TO OPEN AN AIR CORRIDOR IN CHINA," THE CHINESE LETTER ADDED, "AND OBTAIN THE PRIVILEGE OF FREE TRAFFIC FOR SOVIET AIR PLANES OVER CHINESE AIR SPACE."

"FRANKLY, WE DO NOT TRUST YOU," THE CHINESE LETTER WAS QUOTED AS CONCLUDING.

IT WAS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE SOVIET REPLY TO THIS LETTER AS WELL AS A COMPLETE REPORT ON THE UNABATED AND SAVAGE CHINESE CAMPAIGN TO DISCREDIT MOSCOW IN THE COMMUNIST WORLD IS NOW BEING MADE TO SOVIET PARTY MEMBERS.

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED BUT ITS CONTENTS WILL BE SPREAD BY WORD OF MOUTH UNTIL THEY BECOME KNOWN TO VIRTUALLY EVERY SOVIET CITIZEN.

THIS FORM OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE LEADERSHIP AND ORDINARY CARD CARRYING COMMUNISTS HAS BEEN IN VOGUE SINCE STALIN'S DEATH IN 1953.

UR531PES

Approved For Release 2002/08/06: EIA-RDP78S02149R000100170006-6